

Experience College- and Career-Ready Assessment User Guide

2014-2015

Introduction

Welcome to Experience College- and Career-Ready Assessment, or “Experience CCRA.” Experience CCRA is a series of practice tests designed to show you the types of questions that students will see in Grades 3-8 on *ISTEP+* beginning in April 2015.

There are six practice tests for you to explore:

Grades 3-4

- English/Language Arts
- Mathematics

Grades 5-6

- English/Language Arts
- Mathematics

Grades 7-8

- English/Language Arts
- Mathematics

Before you start a practice test, be sure to go through the “Tool Tips” tutorials, using the links located on the right side of the Experience CCRA landing page. The tutorials will guide you through using the tools available to students during *ISTEP+* testing, such the highlighter, eraser, and blocking ruler.



Test Question Types

There are new types of test questions on these practice tests, representing the types of questions students will see in spring 2015. Each type of test question is described below.

Drop-Down List Question: With this type of question, students see their responses in context. Responding in context mirrors actions students would be asked to perform in the classroom.

Read the question and choose the best answer.

Read these sentences. Select the correct spelling of the TWO missing words from the drop-down lists.

My favorite food is pizza. I eat it every day.

click on down arrows to see drop-down lists

allows you to clear all answer choices and start again

Two-Part Question: This type of question includes a “Part A” and a “Part B.” The structure of this question type facilitates broader assessment of a standard by requiring students to connect information or provide evidence to support the answer(s) to Part A.

Part A

Create an expression to represent the total number of bagels in x small boxes and y large boxes.

parts are designated, Part A and Part B

Part B

Assuming the boxes are full, how many bagels are packaged in 5 small boxes and 3 large boxes?

allows you to clear all answer choices and start again

Multiple-Correct Response Question: With this type of question, students select two or more correct answers. The number of answers required is typically noted in the question, unless the skill calls for a “Select all that apply.” The responses required for this type of question allows for broader assessment of a standard.

Part B

605,070 <

Select the THREE numbers that could be placed in the box to make the inequality true.

← answer choices

- ☐ 610,070
- ☐ 604,099
- ☐ 650,010
- ☐ 605,200
- ☐ 605,009
- ☐ 600,970

Drag-and-Drop Question: This question type is used when evidence of understanding calls for the selection and arrangement of content. Students select answers and drag them into response areas.

On a Web site, the widths of square kitchen tiles are given in inches. Katie measures the tile sizes she needs in centimeters. She makes a table to compare her measurements to the Web site's measurements. Drag measurement values to the missing parts of the table to complete the table of equivalent measurements.

Kitchen Tiles

	Tile A	Tile B	Tile C
Width (inches)	6.00 in.	1.50 in.	
Width (centimeters)			10.16 cm

← answer choices

- 1.04 cm
- 2.36 cm
- 3.81 cm
- 4.04 cm
- 8.54 cm
- 4.00 in.
- 7.62 in.
- 25.81 in.

← response areas

Reset

allows you to clear all answer choices and start again

Select Text Question: With this type of question, students select evidence in context. Responding in context mirrors actions students would be asked to perform in the classroom.

Which words or phrases help the reader determine the meaning of the word *camouflaged*? Select TWO words or phrases.

We finally found the cache—a small camouflaged bottle that blended in perfectly with the tree. No wonder it was so hard to find. Inside was a small piece of paper called a logbook. We wrote our names, city and state, and the date on the logbook. Then we put it back in the bottle. We saw that several other people had also signed the logbook.

students mouse over highlighted areas and select answers, e.g., a small piece of paper

Reset

allows you to clear all answer choices and start again

Matching Question: This type of question asks for a series of individual selected responses in a table format. Students select evidence to support understandings. It is a time-efficient question type that is more accessible than the traditional matching item that requires students to draw lines.

Click on a circle to answer each question.

	18	34	45	56
Which number is a multiple of 5?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Which number is a multiple of 6?	☒	☐	☐	☐
Which number is a multiple of 7?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Which number is a multiple of 8?	☐	☐	☐	☒

a check appears when a response is selected

Equation and Expression Entry Question: This is a machine-scored version of a constructed-response question. Instead of being provided options to choose from, students create their own numeric answers, expressions, or equations.

Each student in an art class paints 4 bowls. Altogether, the students paint 72 bowls.

How many students are in the art class?

response area

key pad

Each student in an art class paints 4 bowls. Altogether, the students paint 72 bowls.

How many students are in the art class?

move
back a
space

allows you to clear
all answer choices
and start again

Each student in an art class paints 4 bowls. Altogether, the students paint 72 bowls.

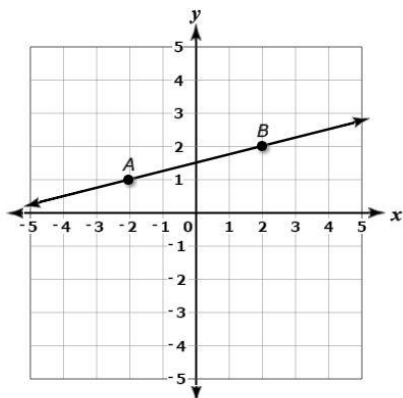
How many students are in the art class?

move
forward
a space

undo, redo, and delete keys

Graph Lines Question: With this type of question, students graph lines.

On the coordinate grid, graph a line that contains the point $(-2, 1)$ and has a slope of $\frac{1}{4}$.

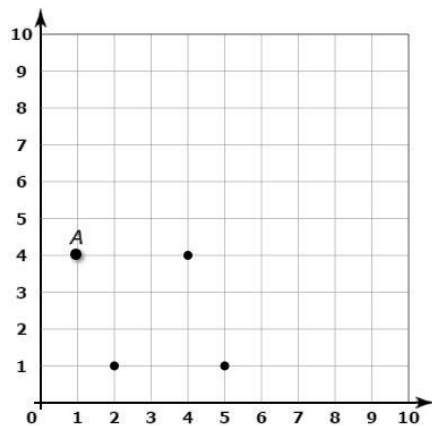


allows you to clear
all answer choices
and start again

Plot Points Question: With this type of question, students plot points on a graph.

Three of the vertices (corners) of a parallelogram are drawn on a grid.

Place the fourth vertex (corner) of the parallelogram on the grid.



allows you to clear
all answer choices
and start again

Timing

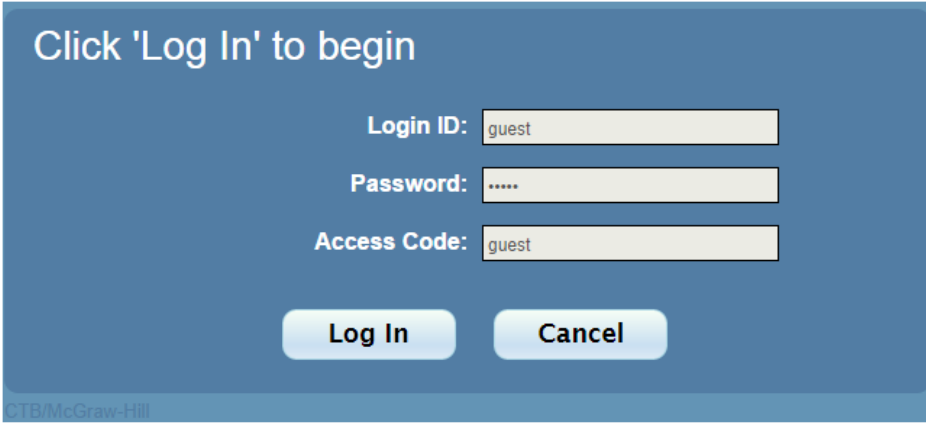
These new types of questions will take more time to answer than traditional multiple-choice questions.

Questions may require students to

- respond to more than one part
- provide more than one answer
- select and sequence items
- select answers in context
- graph lines
- plot points

Directions for Taking the Practice Tests

When you are ready to try some of the practice tests, access the Experience CCRA site at this link: <http://experience-ccra-in.ctb.com/launch.html>. Click on the link of the practice test you would like to try. When the “Log In” screen appears, click “Log In.” You do not need to fill in additional information, as the Login ID, Password, and Access Code have been completed for you.

A screenshot of a login interface with a blue background. At the top, it says "Click 'Log In' to begin". Below this are three input fields: "Login ID:" with the value "guest", "Password:" with masked characters "*****", and "Access Code:" with the value "guest". At the bottom are two buttons: "Log In" and "Cancel". The CTB/McGraw-Hill logo is in the bottom left corner.

Click 'Log In' to begin

Login ID: guest

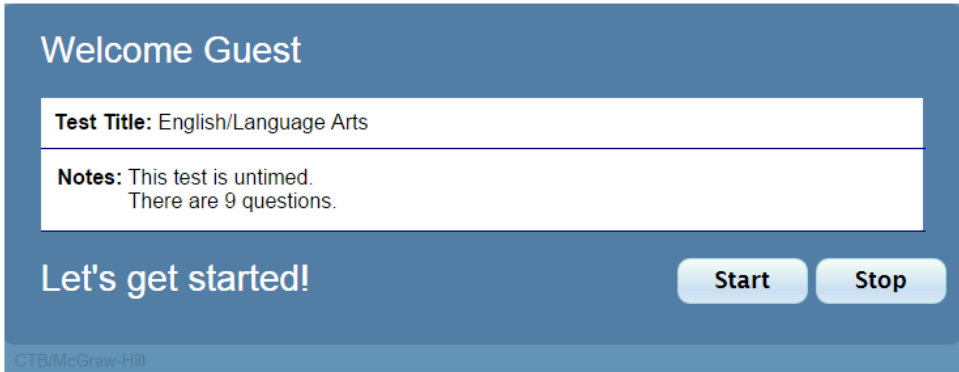
Password: *****

Access Code: guest

Log In Cancel

CTB/McGraw-Hill

The “Welcome Guest” screen will appear next. This screen tells you how many questions are in the practice test that you selected. Click on “Start” to begin the test.

A screenshot of a "Welcome Guest" screen with a blue background. It displays "Test Title: English/Language Arts" and "Notes: This test is untimed. There are 9 questions." At the bottom, it says "Let's get started!" and has "Start" and "Stop" buttons. The CTB/McGraw-Hill logo is in the bottom left corner.

Welcome Guest

Test Title: English/Language Arts

Notes: This test is untimed.
There are 9 questions.

Let's get started!

Start Stop

CTB/McGraw-Hill

Next, the first test question will appear. The Grade 3 English/Language Arts test is displayed below. In this example, students will read the article on the left side of the screen and answer questions on the right.

The screenshot shows the Grade 3 English/Language Arts test interface. At the top, it says "English/Language Arts" and "Question 1 of 9". There are buttons for "Pause Test" and "Stop Test". The top right corner has the "McGraw Hill ONLINE Assessment System" logo. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains an article titled "Hunting for Treasure . . . with a Phone!" with three paragraphs. The right column contains a question labeled "Part B" asking which sentence from the article BEST supports the answer to Part A. Below the article is a definition of geocaching. At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with numbered boxes 1 through 9. Box 1 is highlighted in green. To the right of the navigation bar is a button labeled "Mark for Later Review".

Tool Bar: Located at the top left, containing icons for a pencil, eraser, and calculator.

Scroll Bar: Located on the right side of the article text, used to scroll through the content.

Navigation Bar: Located at the bottom, containing numbered boxes 1 through 9. Box 1 is highlighted in green.

Mark for Later Review: A button located at the bottom right, used to mark questions for later review.

ANSWERED: A label above the "Go On" button, indicating that the question has been answered.

shows whether you answered the question: A label pointing to the "ANSWERED" label.

use to mark questions for later review: A label pointing to the "Mark for Later Review" button.

Answering Test Questions

As you answer questions, a blue circle will appear over the test question in the navigation bar at the bottom of the screen. A blue circle over a number is an indication that you have answered the question.

To mark any question that you would like to review later, you can click on the words "Mark for Later Review" in the lower right-hand corner of your screen. The numbered box at the bottom of the screen for that question will be shaded yellow, and the words "Mark for Later Review" will have changed to "Unmark." Click on "Unmark" and the yellow in the numbered box will disappear.

Some questions provide a "reset" button. Typically, these are questions where students have multiple interactions with the question. Although students may select, unselect, drag options in, or drag options out, the reset button allows students to clear all selections at once and start again.

Tips for Answering Test Questions

Read the directions for each test question. For questions that ask for multiple responses, the directions will tell you to select a certain number of answers, for example "Select TWO answers." When you are finished responding to ALL of the questions on the test, be sure to go back to check to see that you have selected the correct number of answers for EACH question.

English/Language Arts

Question 6 of 9

Untimed Test

McGraw Hill ONLINE Assessment System

Guest

Fire on the Mountain

1 Long ago in Ethiopia, lived a very rich man named Mekonnen Bekele. He owned large tracts of land, many fine houses, fields of golden wheat, and herds of fat cows.

2 Every year, Mekonnen held a summer festival in the town center. People from many miles around would come to try their luck in the games and participate in the contests. At the end of the fair, Mekonnen would invite everyone to his house for a celebration feast. One year, Mekonnen decided to do something different.

3 At the festival's opening, he announced, "I will give a plot of land and a fine house to the person who can spend the night on the tallest mountain in our country."

4 The crowd began to cheer. "But wait!" he continued. "You must be able to spend the night on the mountain without warmth from a fire or a blanket. Who will test their strength and earn the people's admiration?"

Read the story. Then answer the questions.

Part A

How does the cook help Ayana with her problem?

☒ He makes Mekonnen realize that he is wrong about the fire.

☐ He refuses to serve the food until Mekonnen apologizes to her.

☐ He invites her to Mekonnen's feast so that she will not feel sad.

☐ He gives her food so that she will not go hungry on the mountain.

Part B

Which details from the story BEST support the answer to Part A? Select TWO answers.

YOU ARE HERE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

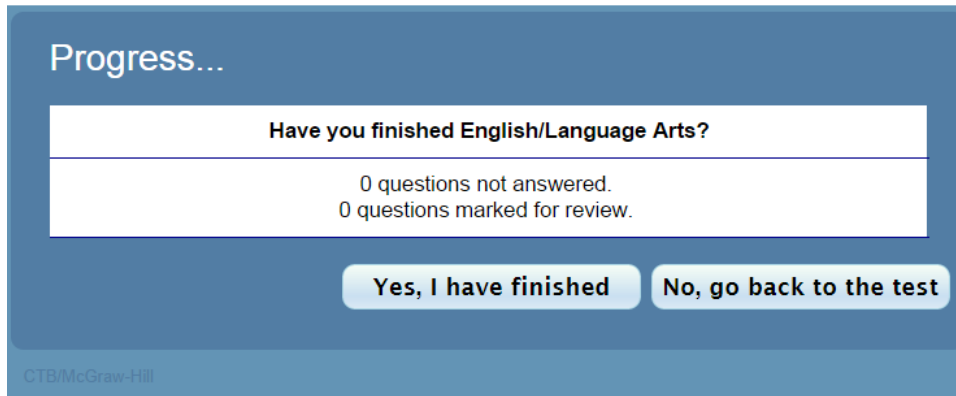
1 OF 2 ANSWERED

Go Back Go On

Mark for Later Review

shows whether you answered all parts of the question

At the end of the test, the following screen will appear. It will ask you whether you have finished taking the test.



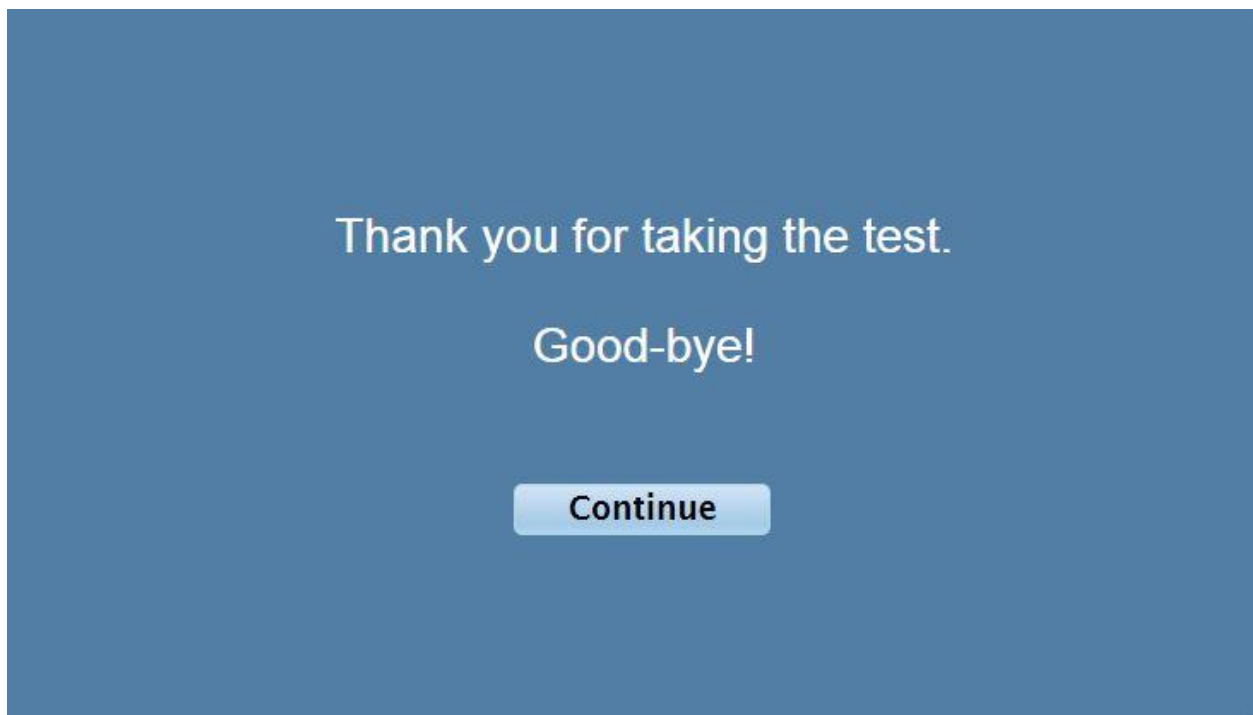
Progress...

Have you finished English/Language Arts?
0 questions not answered. 0 questions marked for review.

Yes, I have finished **No, go back to the test**

CTB/McGraw-Hill

If you select “No, go back to the test,” you will be taken back to the test questions. If you select “Yes, I have finished,” the final screen (below) will thank you for taking the test. At that point, you can press “Continue” to return to the test landing page. (If you do not press “Continue,” you will return to the test landing page automatically.)



Thank you for taking the test.

Good-bye!

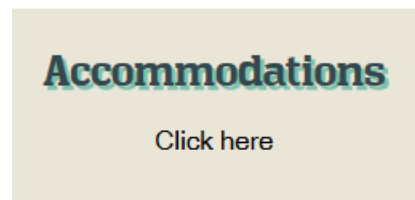
Continue

Accommodations

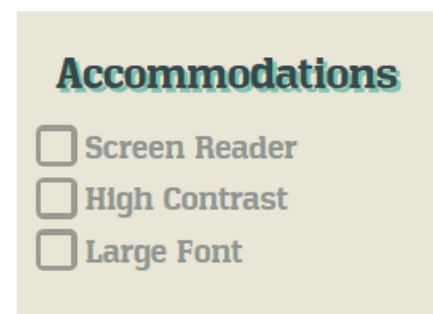
Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and Section 504 Plans may be permitted certain accommodations while taking the *ISTEP+* assessments. For online testing, these accommodations are activated in the system in advance of testing and include such supports as Screen Reader (read-aloud feature), High Contrast (background color change), and Large Font (size adjustment to font).

Accommodations features are included with the Experience CCRA practice tests and are explained in more detail below.

The “Accommodations” link is located on the landing page above the “Tool Tips” link.



If you select “Click here,” the following accommodations choices will appear:



You may select one or more supports as you explore the Experience CCRA practice tests, but note that these accommodations may only be used on *ISTEP+* assessments if designated on a student’s IEP or Section 504 Plan.

Screen Reader

Selecting “Screen Reader” on the accommodations link will allow test directions and eligible test questions to be read aloud. On Experience CCRA (as on *ISTEP+* assessments) some questions may be read aloud and some may not. Restrictions on which questions can be read aloud and which cannot are built into the test. Questions that assess reading comprehension are *not* read out loud. Also, answer choices that might clue students to select a certain response if read aloud are *not* read out loud (e.g., answer choices for spelling questions).

On Experience CCRA, if you have selected the “Screen Reader” accommodation, you can double click on text when you are taking a practice test and the text will be read aloud. If a question is not eligible to be read aloud, the Screen Reader will tell you (e.g., “This is a reading comprehension question. It will not be read aloud.”).

There are three speeds for Screen Reader: Slow, Medium, and Fast. The system defaults to “Medium,” but “Slow” or “Fast” may be selected as appropriate. We recommend using the “Medium” speed and prompting the system to repeat the text read aloud as often as needed.



Note: We recommend practicing with this feature (screen reader) on a wired computer, rather than on an iPad or tablet.

High Contrast

Selecting “High Contrast” on the accommodations link will display test questions in a black background with white text. This allows the words and graphics to stand out, making them easier to see.

Click on a circle to answer each question.

	18	34	45	56
Which number is a multiple of 5?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Which number is a multiple of 6?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Which number is a multiple of 7?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Which number is a multiple of 8?	☐	☐	☐	☐

Large Font

Selecting “Large Font” on the accommodations link will display test questions in 18-point type.

Click on a circle to answer each question.

	18	34	45	56
Which number is a multiple of 5?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Which number is a multiple of 6?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Which number is a multiple of 7?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Which number is a multiple of 8?	☐	☐	☐	☐

Accommodation features are supported on the following systems:

- Firefox v27+
- Chrome v33+
- Safari 5.1*, 6, 7 on both MacOS and iOS 5.1**, 6**, 7**
- IE9***, 10, 11

* High Contrast and Large Font solutions are not supported on Safari 5.1.

** Screen reader is not supported on iPad.

*** IE9 does not support any accommodations.

Test Taking Checklist

- ☐ Access the site at: <http://experience-ccra-in.ctb.com/launch.html>
- ☐ Select the appropriate practice test.
- ☐ Click on “Log In” to access your test.
- ☐ Click on “Start” at the Welcome screen.
- ☐ Follow the directions to answer each test question. Remember, some questions may have more than one correct response.
- ☐ At the end of the test, check to make sure you have answered ALL of the questions.
 - Make sure blue circles appear over EACH number in the navigation bar.
 - Check to be sure you have answered EACH part of a question.
 - Check to be sure you have chosen the correct number of answers for EACH question.
- ☐ Click on “Finish Test.”
- ☐ Select “Yes, I have finished” when the next screen appears. This screen serves as your final exit of the test.
- ☐ Select “Continue” on the “Thank you for taking the test. Good-bye!” screen. This will direct you back to the landing page and allow you to take more practice tests.